

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00

DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 ERDE-00 EURE-00

/092 W

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Z 231450Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 6219

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1465

POUCHED TO AMCONSULS CALGARY AND VANCOUVER FOR INFO

EO 11652 NA

TAGS ENRG CA US

SUBJ NATURAL GAS EXPORT PRICE INCREASE

1. APRIL 22 EVENING AND APRIL 23 MORNING NEWS MEDIA ALL REPORT THAT AS RESULT OF DEPUTY ASST. SEC. KATZ' CONSULTATIONS IN OTTAWA ON SUBJECT GAS PRICE INCREASE A FINAL DECISION ON MATTER IN CABINET ON APRIL 24 IS LESS LIKELY.

2. MONTREAL GAZETTE (APRIL 23) QUOTES ENERGY MINISTER MACDONALD AS STATING THAT "THEY MADE THEIR POSITION CLEAR THAT THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PRICE INCREASES", THAT KATZ "REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT THEY WOULD LIKE A PHASED INCREASE OFFPRICES", AND THAT "CABINET WILL WANT TO LOOK AT A REPORT FROM THE OFFICIALS MEETING...I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE WHEN THE DECISION WILL BE MADE". GAZETTE SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE IN CONTRAST TO MINISTER'S CONSULTATION EVE STATEMENT THAT, WHILE THE GOC WOULD LISTEN TO U.S.

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PROPOSALS "AT THE MOMENT WE ARE NOT OPEN ON EITHER PRICE OR

TIMING".

3. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL REFERRED TO "WELL-TIMED"
VISIT BY SENIOR USG OFFICIALS WHICH HAS "COMPLICATED"
THE PRICE INCREASE ISSUE FOR THE GOC. ARTICLE STATES
THAT MACDONALD SAID THE U.S. DELEGATION HAD PROVIDED
NEW INFORMATION OF WHICH THE GOC HAD NOT BEEN AWARE
PREVIOUSLY AND WHICH THE CABINET WOULD PROBABLY WANT
TO REVIEW BEFORE MAKING A DECISION. GLOBE AND MAIL
NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT ONLY EXAMPLE OF "NEW INFORMATION"
PROVIDED BY MACDONALD WAS USG VIEW ON PREFERRED
PHASING-IN OF INCREASE.
PORTER

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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